

From: ndavlantes@aol.com [mailto:ndavlantes@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 04, 2014 2:07 PM
Subject: City Council Public Testimony - Oppose Bill 69
Aloha, Members of the Honolulu City Council:

Even though I am a dedicated regular bus rider and lament the decrease in service on the windward side serving the Kaneohe and North Shore communities, particularly the disappearance of the iconic "Circle Island" bus, I strongly oppose Bill 69 and respectfully request that you permanently shelve this proposal.

Bus service should be fully restored, so that residents can once again easily traverse our island. This is a basic right for all of our residents, but it should not come at the expense of violating the spirit and intent of our century-long ban on billboards, undermining the unique character of our community, and exposing City coffers to costly lawsuits.

Opening up advertising on our buses will spark litigation because that is what is currently happening in other cities. I do not want my community divided by inflammatory billboards and my tax dollars gobbled up by free speech lawsuits. Please find the funding for basic city services elsewhere. The tax on tourists is a good place to start. This is a reliable source of revenue for the City that helps to enhance the natural beauty that our economy relies on, not destroy it.

Our natural beauty is far more valuable to the quality of life for residents and the bottomline on our economy than anything offered in this measure. Please shelve Bill 69 and find a better way to balance the City budget.

Mahalo,

Nancy Davlantes
45-571 A Awanene Place
Kaneohe

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